

**From:** [Lund, Perry \(ECY\)](#)  
**To:** [Burgess, Karen](#); [Zentner, Greg \(ECY\)](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Tribe planning discharge to a wetland  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2013 1:29:03 PM

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Hi, Karen.

I don't know the origin of that opinion on the MBR, I also don't know any details about the proposal. I'm not aware of any recent wetland enhancement projects using treated effluent. I can, however, imagine a scenario where we may have expressed concern about clean water being discharged into a wetland – the pH of clean water may be too high for a bog, for example. Typically, our concerns have more to do with the volume of water discharged – creating open water from a seasonally flooded marsh, for example. However, all this is speculation. These are complex projects and we don't know anything about what ideas are being explored, or where. I'm happy to talk specifics as soon as we know more, but I'm also happy to talk about wetlands in treatment systems in general if you have questions about our approach. It sounds like EPA is the lead on this, but I'm also willing to contact Jason to learn more.

Thanks.

Perry J Lund  
360-407-7260

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**From:** Burgess, Karen [mailto:[Burgess.Karen@epa.gov](mailto:Burgess.Karen@epa.gov)]  
**Sent:** 28 May, 2013 10:30 AM  
**To:** Lund, Perry (ECY); Zentner, Greg (ECY)  
**Subject:** RE: Tribe planning discharge to a wetland

I don't understand Jason's statement that "*Ecology has discouraged discharges from membrane bioreactor plants due to them being too 'clean'.*" Have there been recent issues with beneficial reuse of MBR effluent for wetlands enhancement? or is this a case of wetlands disposal (i.e. not beneficial reuse)? Are they talking existing, natural wetlands, constructed wetlands or wetlands for mitigation? Sounds like an existing natural wetland, but just want to confirm. Thanks.

*Karen Burgess, P.E.*

**NPDES Permits Unit - State Oversight Lead**  
**U.S. Environmental Protection Agency**  
**Office of Water and Watersheds**  
**1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900, M/S OWW-130**  
**Seattle, Washington 98101**  
**Office: 206.553.1644**

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**From:** Lund, Perry (ECY) [mailto:[plun461@ECY.WA.GOV](mailto:plun461@ECY.WA.GOV)]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 28, 2013 8:30 AM  
**To:** Zentner, Greg (ECY); Burgess, Karen  
**Cc:** Mraz, Richard A. (ECY); [jason.schneider@ihs.gov](mailto:jason.schneider@ihs.gov); Ochoa, Lori (ECY); [tlau461@ECY.WA.GOV](mailto:tlau461@ECY.WA.GOV); Schroeder, Rebecca (ECY)  
**Subject:** RE: Tribe planning discharge to a wetland

Thank you, Greg.

Karen – Lori is our Federal Permit Coordinator (e.g., 401 Certifications) and Rick or Rebecca are our Wetlands/Shorelands Specialists (depending on which jurisdiction the site is in) if you have any questions or if there are other issues requiring coordination.

We may have questions about potential impacts to that portion of the wetland not on trust property (i.e., Waters of the State) and may want to talk with you about that. I supervise the shoreline and wetland permitting group at Ecology's SW Regional Office and please feel free to call or email me if you have any questions.

Perry J Lund  
360-407-7260

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**From:** Zentner, Greg (ECY)  
**Sent:** 28 May, 2013 8:12 AM  
**To:** Ochoa, Lori (ECY)

**Cc:** Lund, Perry (ECY); Mraz, Richard A. (ECY); Karen Burgess

**Subject:** RE: Tribe planning discharge to a wetland

The discharge point is on trust property, although the wetland itself apparently covers trust and non-trust property. I referred Jason to Karen Burgess at EPA.

**Gregory S. Zentner**, Supervisor, Municipal Operations Unit / Department of Ecology / Water Quality Program / Southwest Regional Office / **360-407-6368** / [Greg.Zentner@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:Greg.Zentner@ecy.wa.gov)

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**From:** Schneider, Jason (IHS/POR) [<mailto:jason.schneider@ihs.gov>]

**Sent:** Tuesday, May 28, 2013 7:44 AM

**To:** Zentner, Greg (ECY)

**Subject:** RE: Tribe planning discharge to a wetland

Part of it is, the majority of it is not.

Jason A. Schneider P.E.

LCDR USPHS

Tribal UIC Consultant

Portland Area Indian Health Service

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**From:** Zentner, Greg (ECY) [<mailto:GZEN461@ECY.WA.GOV>]

**Sent:** Friday, May 24, 2013 2:33 PM

**To:** Schneider, Jason (IHS/POR)

**Cc:** Ochoa, Lori (ECY)

**Subject:** Tribe planning discharge to a wetland

Hi Jason – Is the wetland on trust property?

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**From:** Schneider, Jason (IHS/POR) [<mailto:jason.schneider@ihs.gov>]

**Sent:** Wednesday, May 22, 2013 9:31 AM

**To:** Ochoa, Lori (ECY)

**Subject:** Tribe planning discharge to a wetland

Ms. Ochoa,

I'm consulting with a tribe that is evaluating whether they can use a wetland for discharge of their treated wastewater.

They have heard from other entities that discharge to a wetland is quite a balancing act and that Ecology has discouraged discharges from membrane bioreactor plants due to them being too 'clean'. This sounds like we're only getting part of the story, especially since the reclaimed water requirements for wetland discharge are so stringent.

Could you give me some more information on what the tribe should be looking at if they decide to use a wetland discharge?

Thank you

Jason A. Schneider P.E.

LCDR USPHS

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